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Relation of Dyadic and Small Group Communications to Adolescent Attitude Formation in Bogor City, West Java, Indonesia

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Abstract

The research held in Bogor City aims at describing the dyadic communication, the small group communication, and the adolescent attitude formation, and analyzing the relation of dyadic and small group communications to adolescent attitude formation. In the research, the dyadic communication indicates the very good result by mean score 4.37. The small group communication indicates the good result by mean score 3.87. The adolescent attitude formation indicates the good result by mean score 3.47. In the correlation test, the relation of dyadic communication to adolescent attitude formation finds correlation coefficient 0.372 meaning that there is a positive but weak correlation. The relation of small group communication to adolescent attitude formation finds correlation coefficient 0.414 meaning that there is a positive but moderate correlation. The research concludes that the interpersonal communication in family, both dyadicly and by small group, generally relates to the adolescent attitude formation, both on cognitive, affective and conative domains.

KeyWords: Adolescent Attitude Formation; Dyadic Communication; Small Group Communication; Bogor City.

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1. Introduction

Bogor City, lying in the middle of Bogor Regency area, one of localities in West Java Province, and its location very close to Jakarta as the State Capital of Indonesia, is a strategic potential for the development and economic growth and services, national for industry, trade, transportation, communications, and tourism [2]. In running its government, Bogor City is divided into six districts and 68 sub-districts. The population of Bogor City in 2016 was 1,064,687 people consisting of 540,288 men and 524,399 women, and 261,898 households with 4.07 average household members. With an area of 118.50 Km², the population density in Bogor City in 2016 reached 8,985 people per Km² [2]. The population by age group of 13-21 years in Bogor City in 2016 consisted of 266,966 people, in detail 135,143 males and 131,823 females [2]. As a part of smart city, the Government of Bogor City facilitates its people to easily communicate and to fastly get informations by providing hotspots with free WiFi in the strategic points.

Such a portrait of Bogor City, besides presenting the positive advantages, in fact emerges many cases, mainly from the adolescents. The deviations of adolescent attitude and behavior nowadays come into many cases that indicate a part of adolescents being socially unstable. The deviations are in fact influenced by many factors, namely the environment, the relatively slack parent care in family, the stagnant communication, or inharmonious interaction in family. Family is a main fortress to prevent the bad behavior of adolescent and therefore needs a special attention for all. In a program of Metro TV, *Trending Topic*, Ibrahim said that social media could encourage the adolescents to see and to indeed imitate what media had shown. The parents controlled and directed their adolescents to grow up to 21 years, so they were still necessarily accompanied to receive informations [11].

Sukarelawati and Salbiah stated that the environment of adolescents mostly influenced the adolescent behavior in stimulating their development. The care and communication in family and environment encouraged the adolescents to develop themselves [13]. A cause for emerging the cases stems from the communication between adolescent and his/her parents. It can be seen from conducting the approach of interpersonal communication in family, both dyadically and by small group. Infante, Rancer and Womack explained that the rule of game in family was a recipe of how the members of a family behaved. The adolescent might not openly disagree his/her parents in the public. The rule could guarantee the establishment of consistency and stability of interaction in family [12].

Moreover, the environment of adolescents mostly influences their attitude formation in family. The mutual communication between the adolescent and his/her parents in family enables to apply the different approach. The approach can be conducted either individualistically (authoritarianly) or humanistically (democratically). DeVito stated that the authoritarian leadership was suitable when the members of a group continually indicated the low motivation toward their jobs, although some democratic attempts were conducted to encourage them. When the members mostly paid attention to their own rights, the democratic leadership was compatible [6]. Gordon said that an adolescent had a right to be what he/she desired by his/her capacity, although it differed from what his/her parents wanted [3]. The choice to the certain communication approach certainly impacts on the adolescent attitude formation.

Asmaya stated the significant impact of social media usage, especially facebook (fb), on the prosocial behavior of adolescent. The finding of the research described a positively-oriented behavior of adolescent on some indicators, namely sharing, cooperating, honesty, and donating. The research did not find the negative factors of social media usage. Therefore, the encouragement of adolescent that was ideally expected by family and community difficultly tended to anticipate the bad impact on the adolescent. The social network of fb as massively-opened media mostly enabled to present the bad impact on the adolescent that was still necessarily protected and directed [1]. Suryani qualitatively described the pattern of communication among three families using internet in their daily lives and recommended that the control to the environment was necessarily conducted in order to responsibly use the information technology for improving a better life [14].

Based on the background, the research aims at: (1) describing the dyadic and small group communications in Bogor City, (2) describing the adolescent attitude formation in Bogor City, and (3) analyzing the relation of dyadic and small group communications to adolescent attitude formation in Bogor City.

2. Theoretical Framework

The research considers the dyadic and small group communications as independent variables and the adolescent attitude formation as dependent variable.

2.1. Dyadic Communication

Dyadic communication means “the interrelationship between the two, but in practice, this relationship refers to dialogic relations or face-to-face verbal communication between two persons involving their mutual ideas, thoughts, behaviour, ideals, liking and disliking, and all the queries and answers concerning life and living in nature” [8]. Dyadic communication is stated to be effective communication when meeting communication is fun for the communicant. DeVito suggests four indicators of effective dyadic communication, namely openness, empathy, supportiveness/positiveness, and equality [5].

2.2. Small Group Communication

Small group communication refers to “interactions among three or more people who are connected through a common purpose, mutual influence, and a shared identity” [9]. Infante, Rancer and Womack define small group communication as “communication in groups which vary in size from three to about fifteen members” [12]. DeVito specifies that “a group is considered small if members are able to switch roles from receiver to source with relative ease. When groups are composed of fifteen people or more, it becomes difficult to switch from receiver to source. Such a situation is often somewhat formal ...” [4]. Small group communication is measured on twelve indicators, namely solidarity, agreement, procedure, solutiveness, recommendation, opinion, attentiveness, disagreement, tension, coerciveness, ego defence, and comment on group process [12].

2.3. Adolescent Attitude Formation

Attitude is “a predisposition or a tendency to respond positively or negatively towards a certain idea, object,

person, or situation. Attitude influences an individual's choice of action, and responses to challenges, incentives, and rewards (together called stimuli)” [10]. According to Doob, “... the study of attitude formation is the study of how people form evaluations of persons, places or things Unlike personality, attitudes are expected to change as a function of experience. In addition, exposure to the 'attitude' objects may have an effect on how a person forms his or her attitude” [7]. Adolescent attitude formation focuses on three major components, namely: (1) cognitive: belief or opinions held consciously, (2) affective: emotions or feelings, (3) conative: inclination for action [10].

2.4. Relation of Dyadic and Small Group Communications to Adolescent Attitude Formation

The research states that there is relation of dyadic and small group communications to adolescent attitude formation. Relation of dyadic and small group communications to adolescent attitude formation is described in the bellow framework (Figure 1).

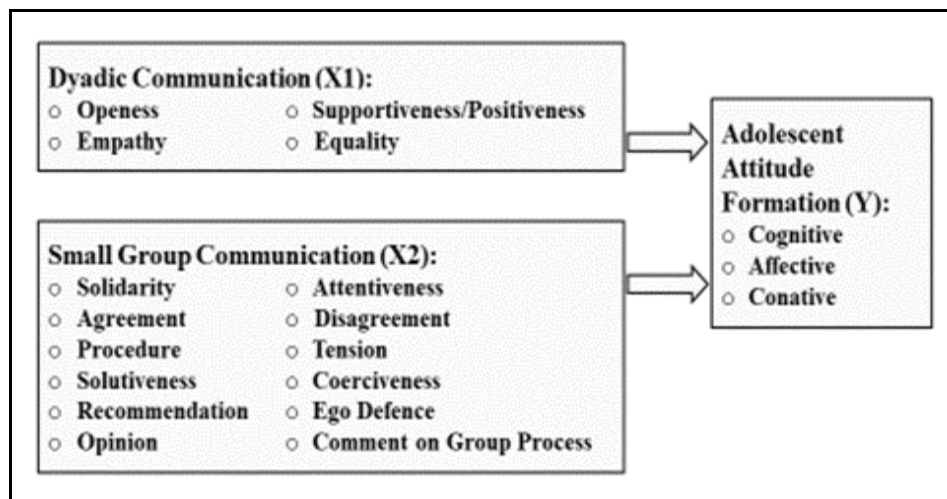


Figure 1: Framework of Relation of Dyadic and Small Group

Communications to Adolescent Attitude Formation

3. Method of Research

The research had been conducted in Bogor City, particularly Kampung Babakan Anyar, during April to September 2017 to analyze the adolescents having the age from 13 years up to 21 years. The research was descriptively and correlationally designed. Samples of the adolescents were purposively determined as many as 33 persons.

Primary data were mainly collected by questionnaires, meanwhile interview and observation was conducted to completely analyze data by questionnaires. Analysis of data by questionnaires used the Weight Mean Score to describe the mean of respondent answers. Meanwhile, Rank Spearman correlation (rs) by SPSS 16.00 was used to analyze the relation of dyadic communication (X1) and small group communication (X2) to adolescent attitude formation (Y) in Bogor City.

4. Result and Discussion

The research held in Bogor City presents the results and discusses them based on dyadic communication, small group communication, adolescent attitude formation, and relation of dyadic and small group communications to adolescent attitude formation.

4.1. Dyadic Communication

The research of dyadic communication in Bogor City is measured on four aspects, namely openness, empathy, supportiveness/positiveness, and equality in family. The mean score of dyadic communication in Bogor City is shown below (Table 1).

Table 1: Dyadic Communication in Bogor City

| No. | Aspect of Research | Mean | Category |
|-----|-----------------------------|------|-----------|
| 1 | Openess | 4.19 | Good |
| 2 | Empathy | 4.34 | Very Good |
| 3 | Supportiveness/positiveness | 4.42 | Very Good |
| 4 | Equality | 4.58 | Very Good |
| | Dyadic Communication | 4.37 | Very Good |

Table 1 presents that the dyadic communication in Bogor City measured on the openness, empathy, supportiveness/positiveness, and equality in family indicates the very good result by mean score 4.37. The dyadic communication of the adolescents refers to their mutual ideas, thoughts, behaviour, ideals, liking and disliking, and all the queries and answers concerning life and living, by putting the openness, empathy, supportiveness/positiveness, and equality forward in communication with family.

As presented in table, the adolescents perceive that they are good in the opened process of dyadic communication in family. The communication perceived as very good is encouraged with empathy by using the dialogue as a best way to talk each other. Besides that, they are very good when their parents positively support them in conducting the self-promoting and social activities. The adolescents expect that the talk is equally (democraticly) done between them and their partners, especially their parents. The research therefore indicates that the education in family from the parents to the adolescents plays an important role to succeed in humanisticly communicating, so that the adolescents have very good attitude to dyadicly communicate.

4.2. Small Group Communication

The research of small group communication in Bogor City is measured on twelve aspects, namely solidarity, agreement, procedure, solutiveness, recommendation, opinion, attentiveness, disagreement, tension, coerciveness, ego defence, and comment on group process in family. The mean score of small group communication in Bogor City is shown below (Table 2).

Table 2: Small Group Communication in Bogor City

| No. | Aspect of Research | Mean | Category |
|-----|---------------------------|------|----------|
| 1 | Solidarity | 3.94 | Good |
| 2 | Agreement | 3.62 | Good |
| 3 | Procedure | 3.90 | Good |
| 4 | Solutiveness | 4.03 | Good |
| 5 | Recommendation | 4.11 | Good |
| 6 | Opinion | 4.07 | Good |
| 7 | Attentiveness | 4.18 | Good |
| 8 | Disagreement | 3.88 | Good |
| 9 | Tension | 3.70 | Good |
| 10 | Coerciveness | 3.12 | Enough |
| 11 | Ego defence | 3.43 | Good |
| 12 | Comment on group process | 3.87 | Good |
| | Small Group Communication | 3.87 | Good |

Table 2 presents that the small group communication in Bogor City measured on the solidarity, agreement, procedure, solutiveness, recommendation, opinion, attentiveness, disagreement, tension, coerciveness, ego defence, and comment on group process in family indicates the good result by mean score 3.87. The adolescents perceive that they are generally good in communication by small group. In the research, the small group communication refers to interactions in family between parent and adolescent who are connected through a common purpose, mutual influence, and a shared identity. The values like solidarity, agreement, procedure, solutiveness, recommendation, opinion, attentiveness, disagreement, tension, coerciveness, ego defence, and comment on group process, can support the communication in family. The research therefore indicates that the small group communication involved in family can build a strong social tie-in and then contributes to the adolescent attitude formation.

4.3. Adolescent Attitude Formation

The research of adolescent attitude formation in Bogor City is measured on three aspects, namely cognitive, affective, and conative domains in family. The mean score of adolescent attitude formation in Bogor City is shown below (Table 3).

Table 3: Adolescent Attitude Formation in Bogor City

| No. | Aspect of Research | Mean | Category |
|-----|-------------------------------|------|----------|
| 1 | Cognitive | 4.00 | Good |
| 2 | Affective | 3.56 | Good |
| 3 | Conative | 2.86 | Bad |
| | Adolescent Attitude Formation | 3.47 | Good |

Table 3 presents that the adolescent attitude formation in Bogor City measured on the cognitive, affective, and conative domains in family generally indicates the good result by mean score 3.47. As the adolescents perceive, they are good in the cognitive and affective attitude formation. The adolescents cognitively believe in the problems related to the family that they consider the nuclear family as the true place to interpersonally and by

face-to-face solve the problems. Affectively, the adolescents calmly, comfortably and proudly feel if the nuclear family cares about their personal problems or the problems related to their family and guides them to the true path. Although conatively perceived as bad, because the adolescents feel disappointed in the family to ask them for discussing and solving their personal problems, there is necessary to be careful that the adolescents generally tend to be socially unstable, so that they still need the guidance of parents in family. In the case, the problem solving of adolescents is necessarily approached through the interpersonal communication, both dyadically and by small group.

4.4. Relation of Dyadic and Small Group Communications to Adolescent Attitude Formation

Results of the relation of dyadic and small group communications to adolescent attitude formation in Bogor City are shown in Table 4 and Table 5.

Table 4: Relation of Dyadic Communication to Adolescent Attitude Formation in Bogor City

| | | | Dyadic Communication | Attitude Formation |
|----------------|----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| Spearman's rho | Dyadic Communication | Correlation Coefficient | 1.000 | .372* |
| | | Sig. (2-tailed) | . | .033 |
| | | N | 33 | 33 |
| | | | | |
| | Attitude Formation | Correlation Coefficient | .372* | 1.000 |
| | | Sig. (2-tailed) | .033 | . |
| | | N | 33 | 33 |
| | | | | |

*. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

In Table 4, the correlation test of dyadic communication (variable X1) and adolescent attitude formation (variable Y) in Bogor City finds correlation coefficient 0.372 meaning that there is a positive but weak correlation.

Table 5: Relation of Small Group Communication to Adolescent Attitude Formation in Bogor City

| | | | Small Group Communication | Attitude Formation |
|----------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| Spearman's rho | Small Group Communication | Correlation Coefficient | 1.000 | .414* |
| | | Sig. (2-tailed) | . | .017 |
| | | N | 33 | 33 |
| | | | | |
| | Attitude Formation | Correlation Coefficient | .414* | 1.000 |
| | | Sig. (2-tailed) | .017 | . |
| | | N | 33 | 33 |
| | | | | |

*. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

In Table 5, the correlation test of small group communication (variable X2) and adolescent attitude formation (variable Y) in Bogor City finds correlation coefficient 0.414 meaning that there is a positive but moderate correlation.

The research held in Bogor Regency analyzes that there, although weak and moderate, are positive correlations between dyadic and small group communications and adolescent attitude formation. Results of the research in Table 4 and Table 5 refer to the importance of dyadic and small group communications in family. The family, both parent and adolescent, develops a conducive communication, both interpersonal and face-to-face, in order to enable an intimate dialogue in family. The research therefore states that there is relation of dyadic and small group communications to adolescent attitude formation.

5. Conclusion

The research concludes that the dyadic communication in Bogor City measured on the openness, empathy, supportiveness/positiveness, and equality in family indicates the very good result by mean score 4.37. The small group communication in Bogor City measured on the solidarity, agreement, procedure, solutiveness, recommendation, opinion, attentiveness, disagreement, tension, coerciveness, ego defence, and comment on group process in family indicates the good result by mean score 3.87. The adolescent attitude formation in Bogor City measured on the cognitive, affective, and conative domains in family indicates the good result by mean score 3.47. The correlation test of dyadic communication and adolescent attitude formation in Bogor City finds correlation coefficient 0.372 meaning that there is a positive but weak correlation. The correlation test of small group communication and adolescent attitude formation in Bogor City finds correlation coefficient 0.414 meaning that there is a positive but moderate correlation. Therefore, the interpersonal communication in family, both dyadically and by small group, generally relates to the adolescent attitude formation, both on cognitive, affective and conative domains.

6. Recommendation

Based on the conclusion, the research provides an empirical understanding on dyadic and small group communications in relation to attitude formation contributing to enrich theory of interpersonal communication and makes use of it as a reference to deeply explain the same case in another location. Further research is required to confirm the finding on dyadic and small group communications in relation to attitude formation. It moreover broadens the case and location of research and the determining of sample size to get more factors and data for validating the finding.

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